



JANUARY 1962

TOC H JOURNAL



PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT 15 TRINITY SQUARE, LONDON, EC3

NINEPENCE

Journal Smalls

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THE STILL CENTRE. The writings of the Bordon Company. Published this month and reviewed by Barclay Baron on page 7 of this number. 4s. 6d. (postage 6d. extra).

STAMPS. Gifts of Foreign Stamps and Great Britain (4d. values and over) are always welcomed by Toc H Stamps Appeal. C. H. Wake, 475 Roxborough Avenue, Rockcliffe, Ottawa, Canada. Mark Packets 'Free Gift'.

Collections of stamps urgently wanted, used and unused, British and Foreign, ancient and modern. Please send to help refugees, hospitals, and missions. The Rev. Dick Tuesday, 263 Mansel Road, Millbrook, Southampton.

JANUARY, 1962

FORTIETH YEAR OF PUBLICATION



TOC H JOURNAL

Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view and are not necessarily those of the Movement

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**Entry for the Competition 'Concerning Toc H',
for details see page 27*

COVER PICTURE: "I'm all mixed up". Picture taken at the Toc H seaside holiday for Midland boys by M. J. Osborne, Bournemouth. Awarded First Prize for transparencies in the recent 'Focus on Toc H' competition.

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IN AND OUT



-notes & comment

THE *T.V. Times* dated November 24 carried a full-page illustrated article, written by JOHN CALLF, the Administrator, on the aims and workings of Toc H. As *T.V. Times* enjoys a

Making Friends

weekly circulation of four million copies, with an estimated readership of well over thirteen million, it can be safely said that through this medium an enormous number of people now know more about the Movement and its work. Then, on Sunday November 26, viewers of the "Sunday Break" programme, estimated at well over two million, saw an intimate picture of Toc H in action at Dor Knap, our conference and training centre in the Cotswolds. This was, of course, an A.T.V. show, and while Toc H was in no position to lay down the way the subject matter should be treated, it was in fact an honest-to-goodness presentation, faithfully reflecting the essential amateur aspect of Toc H which might so easily have been lost or overlaid through slick professional treatment. In the televised interview which followed, ALAN HILL and DAVID DAWSON, of Mark XXII, representing the Movement, acquitted themselves well in answering the unrehearsed questions though no doubt many member-viewers would have liked to chip in. David, in fact, when probed on his innermost thoughts made sharp comment on the Ceremony of Light, which must have caused many older members to sit up and take notice. When the interviewer suggested that "Toc H public relationships needed bucking-up", more than one armchair critic was bursting to tell him that, up till now, the Movement has been firmly built on *personal* relationships and, alternatively, to be introduced to more than two million people at one go, is quite something. Beyond all doubt, both article and T.V. programme provided Toc H with far and

away the biggest opportunity in its history. The unstinted gratitude of all members goes out to Associated Television, the producer, the writers, the cameramen and technicians whose help made it possible for the Toc H case to be presented to multitudes of men and women.

AT A RECENT one-day conference on crime prevention in London, Mr. BUTLER, the Home Secretary, suggested that prosperity could be "just as demoralising as poverty". He

Crime denied that he was suggesting that the
Prevention country had lost its moral fibre and asked:
"What are the values by which in our

conduct and unspoken assumptions we offer our children and young people for imitation? The concepts of love and duty, of responsibility for family and neighbours, which we derive from our Christian heritage will not survive unless we continue consciously to live by them." The Bishop of London, the Rt. Rev. ROBERT STOPFORD, representing the Archbishop of Canterbury, suggested closer co-operation between bodies dealing with youth such as the schools and the churches, and the police and voluntary organisations. Public and voluntary services should also be integrated. He suggested that the churches might set aside people who could "discreetly" help young offenders, to whom the probation officer still seemed to be on the side of the law.

A WORLD without books would be a barren place for many of us. Yet, it is not easy to describe in words just what a book is. R. H. Havercroft, in his newly-published book *A Book is*

A Book *Made for You* (Harrap, 12s. 6d.), defines it
is a Book as "a number of sheets of paper fastened
together at one edge by some kind of bind-

ing in such a way that the whole can be opened for writing on or for reading what has already been written or printed upon the leaves". From this fair start he goes on to outline the advances made from the earliest days of writing, the invention of printing from movable type and the hand-press to the two-revolution presses in use today. In Part Two he deals with the making of the modern book and we found the chapter on the publishing side of book production exceptionally interesting. In writing *A Book is Made for You* the author had in mind young people in printing and publishing, senior schoolboys and girls and general readers—including writers. On a personal note, the author is an active member of Toc H and present Chairman of our Literature and Publicity Committee, while the clear line drawings that accompany the text are the work of his daughter, Miss SUSAN HAVERCROFT.

Friends for 46 Years

JOHN CALLE

We are very glad to reproduce here, by courtesy of the Editor of "T.V. Times", the text of a full-page illustrated article by the Administrator, which appeared in the issue dated November 24. It is estimated that this was seen by well over thirteen million readers. On the facing page was also announced the 'Sunday Break' programme which featured Toc H activities at Dor Knap.

WE HAD DRIVEN to a Toc H country Branch meeting in an open sports car and parked it outside. It was summer, but when we came out dusk was falling, and the local policeman was patiently waiting, ready to book us for parking without lights.

"Can't you forget it?" asked the driver. "It has only just got dark and we have been at a Toc H meeting which went on a little longer than we expected."

"I don't see what that's got to do with it," said the copper. "And anyway, what is Toc H?"

Said the driver: "I can tell you this. If you had been a member instead of waiting here to pinch me, you would have just leaned over and switched on my ruddy lights."

That is about the best off-the-cuff definition of Toc H that I have heard. For Toc H is a difficult organisation to describe. Its work is more simple than dramatic. All we do, in fact, is ask ordinary people to take an extraordinary interest in the lives of others.

For example: A member who is a rent collector in East Anglia heard on his rounds that an old couple were being evicted and had nowhere to go. It worried him. So he searched round until he found someone who had

an old cottage. He told the couple, then discovered that they had no money to pay for the removal of their furniture. So members of the local Toc H Branch used their cars to move the old people into their new home. And they made sure the couple were properly settled in. A simple case of a man keeping his eyes open and caring about others . . .

In Kent, a local Branch was told of a mother of three children who was destitute because her husband had been sent to jail. The members gave her clothing and bedding.

Then they found a farmer who had an old cottage in need of repair. They decorated it and made it habitable. And the woman and her children moved in. Meanwhile, someone had been to the jail, had told the husband what was happening and had promised him a job when he came out.

How did the organisation get its name? Toc H is Army signalling jargon for Talbot House, a Servicemen's club



The Toc H page in "T.V. Times".

opened near Ypres, Belgium, during the first world war in 1915. The founder of the club was the Rev. P. B. Clayton, better known as "Tubby" Clayton—for obvious reasons. Above the door of Tubby's room in the club was inscribed: *Abandon Rank All Ye Who Enter Here.* In the lounge was another notice: *If You Are Accustomed To Spitting On The Carpet At Home, Please Spit Here.* Tubby is at present touring Toc H Branches in Canada.

Nowadays we are trying to dispel the idea that Toc H is a society for ex-Servicemen only. It started because

men, sick of death and destruction, turned to something that meant life and construction. But the organisation has now ceased to have military overtones. Between the world wars, Branches helped to combat the effects of unemployment and helped to start the voluntary blood transfusion service.

Today we try to fight loneliness and helplessness among the housebound and elderly. We dig their gardens, paper their walls, shop for them and take their washing to the laundries. We work among the handicapped, the spastics and the mentally ill.

Most important man in each of our 1,900 Branches at home and overseas is the Jobmaster, who is responsible for putting his Branch to useful work. Our home membership is 14,200 men and 8,750 women.

Recently the Vice-Chancellor of Bristol University described Toc H as "one of the great fruits of the spirit of the 20th Century". And the Bishop of Bristol, the Rt. Rev. Oliver Tomkins, spoke of its "down-to-earthness" and its ability to demonstrate the love of God in everyday life. Toc H has members of all denominations—and none. One who started as an agnostic is now a bishop. Creed or colour never debar a person from joining Toc H.

By the way . . . about that policeman I mentioned earlier. He didn't book us for parking without lights. And, we heard later, he *did* find out exactly what Toc H was. By joining.

YOUR TOC H DIARY

While supplies last, make sure of securing your copy of the Toc H Diary for 1962. It contains much useful information, together with sixteen pages of coloured maps. The price is 4s. 6d. including postage, or 5s. 0d. fitted with pencil, direct from Toc H Publications Dept., 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

‘The Still Centre’

BARCLAY BARON

IN ONE of Tubby's festival forms of service he speaks of God "who dwells in stillness at the heart of energy". It is a phrase that sticks in the mind but when, as too often happens, it is spoken without any real comprehension, it is just a phrase and nothing more. Toc H now publishes a small book* which should help us to understand it—and to do that is to share a grand secret with many of the best men we know.

The title of the book is *The Still Centre*, with the abrupt subtitle *Men Praying*. It is an anthology of the thoughts of many minds but the authors, like the editor who has arranged them, remain anonymous. That is because this is an anthology of the Bordon Company, a selection from the typed monthly letters which go out, unsigned, to a growing company of Toc H members of whom there is no published list. They are bound together by the consciousness that fellow-members are using the same means and meeting the same difficulties and the same rewards on a common pilgrimage. The means are daily reading of the Bible (with the help of the notes, published quarterly, of the Bible Reading Fellowship) and the practise of regular prayer. It is a simple discipline but most of them do not find it easy, for most of them are very ordinary men. Their reward in all cases is an enrichment of life and maybe in some cases the discovery of its real meaning for the first time.

In these days of continual restlessness, often of insane hurry, nothing is more needed and harder to come by than quiet. And that means more than a spell when the body is inactive and the mind free from anxiety: it can

* *The Still Centre*, published by Toc H, 4s. 6d.

mean refreshment of both and being in touch with the fixed point round which our daily energies revolve. From that "still Centre", if we give ourselves the chance to listen, comes the old assurances "Be still and know that I am God."

This little book may be of service to all of us because it brings to us the first-hand experience of men who have tried thus to listen, who are seeking and are finding.



Snowball

J. P. BOXALL

IT ALL BEGAN two years ago when the Area Guard of the Lamp expressed concern at our low membership of ten men, and four of those over the sixty mark.

How to get new members? We asked other Branches, we debated it, but by now our membership had dropped to nine. We decided the fault was our meeting place. The vestry room of an old church hall and the coldest and draughtiest room in Kent. We needed a new building and decided to build our own; Branch funds stood at £4, so first we needed money.

We ran a Summer Fete and roped in the local school and various friends to help. Fred got a friend, Horace, to run the coconut shies. After the Fete, Horace came along to a couple of meetings; he is now Vice-Chairman. John brought along a friend Bill; Bill liked us, goodness knows why, and brought along Percy, his brother. Percy brought along his son Jimmy. Bill proved a very capable Jobby last year and Percy makes an excellent cup of tea. Jimmy isn't quite sixteen but he always lends a hand when any job is going.

* This month's entry in the 'Concerning Toc H' Competition (for details see page 27).

By now, thanks to H.Q., we had our land for building but a Community Hall is badly needed in Cheriton and the Building Fund stood at £150, so much more money was needed. We started a series of jumble sales and George II. came to give us a hand at one and became interested. We made him Jobby at our last A.G.M.

George I. had appeared out of the blue some months before, George had a car and enthusiasm, both assets to the Branch. We appointed him our representative to the local Youth Club.

Sid decided to leave Whetstone and move to Folkestone. Whetstone Branch's secretary did his stuff but before his letter arrived the milkman had found out Sid was a member and passed the news on; he now relieves me as assistant secretary. We had another Fete this summer and the Youth Club ran the coconut shies; we invested Mark, their leader, last month.

Meanwhile the plans of the Hall had been drawn up and were being approved by the local council, and one of the councillors came along to discuss them. We hope to invest Cecil next week.

Bill took in a lodger, transferred from a shop in Sidcup. Bill, of course, brought him along to a meeting and Alf became a member three weeks ago. Horace changed his job and within two weeks brought along one of his workmates. And so it goes on: each week sees some new face. They don't all stay: after all Toc H isn't everyman's cup of tea but our membership grows.

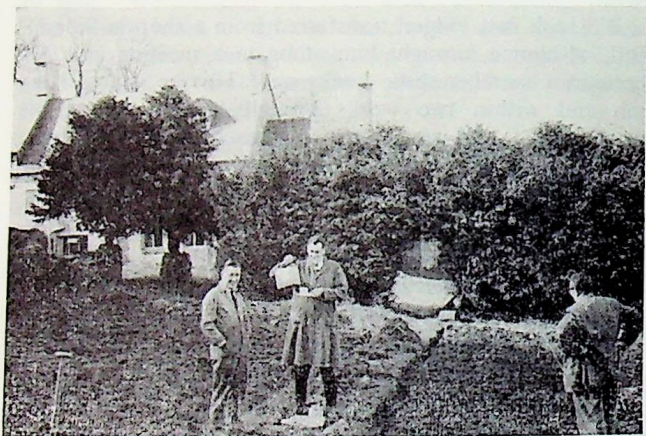
We have had our losses, two members have joined the Elder Brethren; Jimmy went to Australia six weeks after becoming a member and F.E., our Padre, got moved on. But the new curate was already a Toc H member.

We still meet in the coldest and draughtiest room in Kent. Our Building Fund has only just topped the £400 mark and the Hall is a dream of the future, but there are now seventeen of us working for it and, who knows, next Tuesday it might be twenty.



FIRST PRIZE : Black and White class. "Picnic in Kew Gardens."
N. H. P. Vereker, London, S.W.5.

‘Focus on Toc H’ (3)

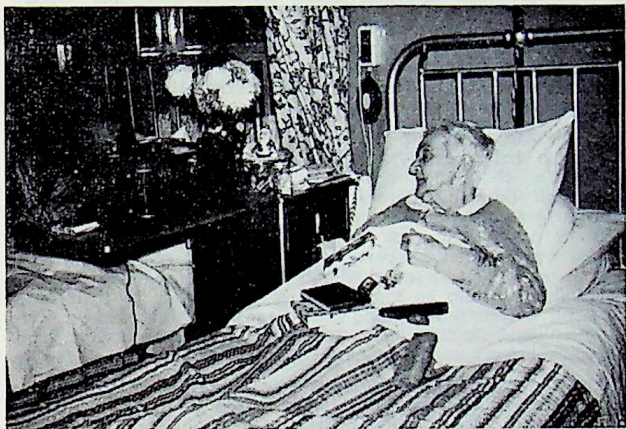


SECOND PRIZE : Black and White class. "Morning tea break at Dor Knap."
T. E. Hodson, Tattershall, Lincoln.



SECOND PRIZE : Colour Transparency class. "Here's to you."
P. E. K. Morgan, Moseley, Birmingham 13.

AWARD-WINNING ENTRIES IN OUR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



THIRD PRIZE : Colour Transparency class. "90th Birthday wish from Canadian son."
G. Dillaway, Wisbech, Cambs.

FAR CRY

-overseas notes



Contributed by GEOFF MARTIN

Report from Mauritius

HERE are some extracts from a letter written by the Jobmaster of the new Mauritius group, L. M. SELWAY, accompanying their request for recognition.

Our group consists of thirteen members so far. We had decided that prison visiting should be one of our duties, so we got the Commissioner of Prisons to tell us all about them. Now, the doors of the local prisons are wide open for us—that is for visiting the prisoners! We endeavour somehow to make better citizens of them and have also undertaken to find them jobs at the end of their prison sentences, which is not going to be easy.

In the same way, we got Mr. Lois Lagesse, a leading newspaperman before he went blind. Since his blindness, he has founded a School for the Blind in Mauritius where some seventy blind men and children are boarded and taught basketry and other crafts. Our group has visited the School and arranged a programme designed to ease the lot of these men. We started by organising a Christmas party with music and refreshments. At first we were a bit awkward and we did not realise that we had to be real nursemaids to them, guiding their hands to their cups, etc., still we felt proud doing this, because we were told we were the first organisation outside their own to be interested in them. Now, we are planning to take them for an outing to the sea-side.

Most of the blind attending the school are illiterate but the blind 'intellectuals' find life much harder and as there is no official Braille teacher and of course no books in Braille, our group has decided to go to their homes to read to them or simply to chat on their pet subjects. We are always wanting to

do more for the blind and perhaps you could advise us how to proceed, because we believe we are not doing enough.

Visiting patients in hospitals is also among the group's activities and likewise the orphanages. So far, the Pere Laval Orphanage has had our constant attention; in fact we introduced ourselves there with a modest Christmas party for the children. Although it is an orphanage, many children there have both parents, but as the former are victims of poliomyelitis and consequently crippled, we discovered that the parents did not want to know them any more. We had a group of carol singers to entertain them and distributed cakes and lemonade. We could not give them any toys because we had planned the party too late, but we hope to do better this Christmas. We intend to give them cinema shows; however, we shall have to start with stills but we hope to do better when we have a movie projector. We have now put other orphanages on our list.

These activities do keep the thirteen of us going.

Ban the Colour Bar

At the latter end of 1960, the matter of the Aboriginal community in South Brisbane was receiving some adverse comments in the press, and by the general public. These unfortunate people who are the real Australians were being pushed aside and looked down on as undesirables. It was found that a very kindly public-spirited lady in South Brisbane was struggling to maintain a hostel for them, but was needing some genuine practical help in her good samaritan work. So Toc H invited her to one of their meetings to hear her message. As a result, on Friday night of each week the Branch rooms were made available so that Mrs. Wilding's people could form a club and have accommodation for practising their native dances, music and general recreation. Much help has also been given by members collecting clothing, distributing fruit and vegetables and other useful gifts.

The members of Toc H soon realised that their great need was for a friendship which takes no notice of colour, caste or creed, but recognises that we are all brothers and sisters of the same Heavenly Father and have no right to take the authority of making His love apply to one class or colour, to the detriment of others.

There is now a nation-wide move to tackle this problem of our native coloured people. On July 10 last year

Brisbane Branch sponsored an Aboriginal and Islanders concert in the City Hall. The organisers were fortunate in having the Governor Sir Henry Abel Smith, Lady May and party present. The Branch has not sat back on this initial success, but has representation on the Hostel Management Committee, also two members are on the committee of a new organisation which is developing into something quite big, to tackle the Aboriginal problem and to bring about the general betterment of these people.

BILL COWLEY.

A start in Akure

Not long ago a member of Lagos Mainland Branch, I. O. VAUGHAN, was transferred to Akure. He applied himself steadily to selling the idea of Toc H to others and now feels strong enough to apply for recognition as a group. The application has been approved and a new group replaces the original Lagos Island Branch at present in a state of suspense. Our good wishes go to Vaughan in his one-man missionary enterprise.

A new publication . . .

THE STILL CENTRE



AN ANTHOLOGY OF
THE BORDON COMPANY

"This little book may be of service to all of us because it brings to us the first-hand experience of men who have tried to listen, who are seeking and are finding."

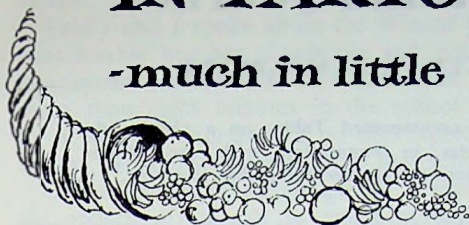
—BARCLAY BARON.

Price 4s. 6d. (postage 6d.)

OBTAINABLE FROM AREA OFFICES,
OR DIRECT FROM TOC H PUBLICATIONS DEPT.

MULTUM IN PARVO

-much in little



☛ THE FOUNDER PADRE and JEREMY POLLOCK are now in the United States and will be leaving for home in February.

☛ CYRIL CATTELL (Kent and Sussex Areas Secretary) has been appointed Assistant General Secretary. After the Festival in June he will become General Secretary on Rex Calkin's retirement.

☛ The Rev. JOHN I. JONES has returned to the Staff to do part-time work in the western parts of North Wales.

☛ LES WHEATLEY will be leaving Notts. & Derby in February to become Northern Area Secretary in place of CHARLES YOUNG, Warden-designate of the new Mark III Prideaux House.

☛ DICK and EILEEN HUGHES have been appointed Warden and Matron of the Talbot House Residential Club for Seafaring Boys, Southampton, from February.

☛ The NOTTS. & DERBY office is now at: Toc H, 45 Castle Gate, Nottingham.

☛ WILFRID YOUNGS has been appointed Hon. Correspondent in the Northern Area.

☛ W. L. (BILL) GIBB has succeeded BOB PRESTON as Commissioner of the Toc H Services Clubs, B.A.O.R., in Germany.

☛ 'TO SPONSORS': The new leaflet for personal use by the two Sponsors appointed for each prospective member is available at Area Offices.

☛ BRANCH MEMBERS' ROLLS are due by January 15 from every Branch. Repeat 'January 15'. Repeat 'every'.

☛ The last date for Central Councillors' nominations of candidates for the CENTRAL EXECUTIVE, 1962-63, is now February 20; also due by then the notices of any motions to be put to the Council at the annual meeting.

Autumn Journey

KEN PRIDEAUX-BRUNE

The writer accompanied Tubby on a visit to the United States in connection with the Winant Volunteers in October/November last year.

"TEN THOUSAND MILES in six weeks. Meeting new people all the time. No more than two nights in any one bed. I'm absolutely worn out!" This is the accepted reaction to a trip such as mine.

But, frankly, I loved every minute of it. My only problem is getting back into the groove of life on Tower Hill. Apart from being an opportunity to see a good deal of a fascinating country, and a wonderful chance to renew old and deep friendships, it was a most encouraging trip from the point of view of the Winant programme.

There was evidence of a continuing enthusiasm for the Winant work on the part of those who have shared in it. No less than eighty-five of them came to the annual meeting in New York. Sixty-five came to an informal gathering in Boston, and thirty came to a similar gathering in Dallas.

It is exciting to discover how many Winants, after their return home, have become involved in work similar to that which they undertook in London. Two Yale undergraduates are helping regularly in a youth club in New Haven. A boy at Harvard is making a deliberate attempt to make friends with some of the foreign students there. A Princeton student has spent the last two summers in a Negro parish in Jersey City. These are examples of the kind of thing that is happening, and they indicate

that the Winant Volunteers become more aware of the needs of their own community through experiencing the needs of a foreign community. Many return home with a rather different outlook on life, a different sense of values.

Tubby and I spoke about the Winant programme in a considerable number of schools and colleges. My final assignment was to talk at a school in Dallas, for not more than eight minutes in the school Chapel at 8.30 on a Monday morning. I do not expect that there will be any Winant Volunteers from that school!

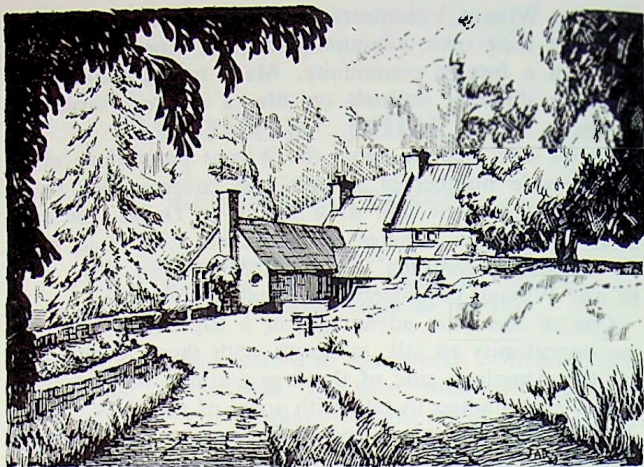
One of the main advantages of a trip such as this is the opportunity to talk at length with those responsible for the American side of the organisation. In particular it was encouraging to talk with some of those for whom the Clayton Volunteers worked last summer. It is clear that the presence of these young British visitors is felt to be of great value. "We are still asked on the street every week if they are coming back, or if others are coming to us in the future", said the Rev. Bill Wendi of Washington D.C., with whom three of the Volunteers worked. And he went on: "I know for a fact that these three have the prayers of many of the children in this neighbourhood".

* * *

A message from GENERAL EISENHOWER to the Annual Meeting of the League of Winant Volunteers, held in New York on October 7, 1961.

"I send cordial greetings and my best wishes to all of you gathered at the annual meeting for the continuing success of the Winant Volunteers, whose public spirited efforts individually and collectively inspired good works on both sides of the Atlantic. In the nonending struggle to improve the lot of others sincerely motivated and selflessly applied is found the greatest of human satisfaction. May your splendid service to youth and may your fine example shine forth for all of us for years to come."

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER



Dor Knap

THANKS to the hard work of visiting parties, the generous gifts of many members and friends and the untiring efforts of GEORGE and DOROTHY ATKINSON, whose first full year as Wardens has made them hosts of friends, great progress was made at Dor Knap during the past twelve months.

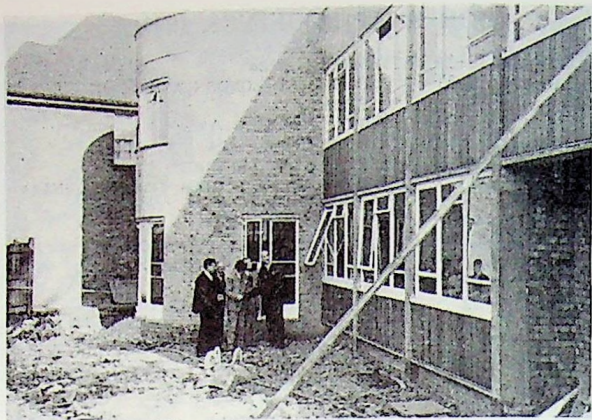
During 1961 between six and seven hundred men (including boys from affiliated schools) spent a week-end or a week at Dor Knap. Most of these parties were arranged by Areas or Districts and were under the leadership of members of the Area staff, and this will again be the pattern in 1962. As will be seen from the list of bookings on the opposite page there will again, in addition, be a number of Central Weeks and Weekends on specific themes or for specific groups of members.

Anyone who would like an invitation to any of these should write to the leader of the party concerned either direct, or c/o Alec Churcher, Toc H Headquarters, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

DOR KNAP BOOKINGS, 1962

W/E January 12-14	WESTERN AREA
W/E January 19-21	SOUTH EAST LONDON AND EAST LONDON AREAS
W/E February 16-18	WEST MIDLANDS AREA
W/E February 24-25	LINCOLNSHIRE AREA
W/E March 2-4	SPRING PARK DISTRICT
W/E March 9-11	WEST MIDLANDS AREA TEAM & CENTRAL COUNCILLORS
W/E March 17-18	WESTERN AREA
W/E March 23-25	EAST DEVON DISTRICT
*W/E April 6-8	For Jobmasters & Pilots (Leader: Alec Churcher).
W/E April 13-15	MANCHESTER AREA EXECUTIVE
W April, Tues. 17-24	SCHOOLS WEEK
W/E April 27-29	BEDS. & HERTS. AREA EXECUTIVE
W/E May 4-6	CENTRAL EXECUTIVE
May 7-10	PADRES' CONFERENCE
W/E May 11-13	WESTERN AREA
May 18-19	STUBBING'S C.E.M.S.
W/E May 19-20	SOUTH YORKSHIRE DISTRICT
W/E May 25/27	SOUTH WESTERN AREA AND EAST LONDON AREA
W/E June 1-3	SOUTH WALES DIVISION AND WEALD DISTRICT
Whit Monday, June 11	OPEN DAY
W June 23/30	EAST AND WEST YORKSHIRE AREAS & SURREY AREA
W/E June 30-July 1	EAST MIDLANDS AREA
July 2-6	WOMEN'S ASSOC. STAFF CONFERENCE
*W/E July 7-9	"Christians in Industry" (Leader: Rev. J. Gingell).
W July 14-21	KENT AND SUSSEX AREAS
W July 21-28	NORTHERN, LAKELAND AND SCOTLAND AREAS
W July 28-Aug. 4	SCHOOLS WEEK
*W August 4-11	"The Life & Work of a Branch" (Leader: A. Churcher).
*W August 11-18	For Older Leaders.
*W August 18-25	For Marksmen & Others (Leader: Alan Hill).
*W Aug. 25-Sept. 1	Warden's Week.
*W/E September 1-2	"About Extension" (Leader: A. Churcher).
W/E September 7-9	
September 11-13	RANAGAZOO
W/E September 15-16	EAST MIDLANDS AREA EXECUTIVE
W/E September 21-23	HUDDERSFIELD & HALIFAX DISTRICTS
W/E September 28-30	WEST MIDLANDS AREA
W/E October 5-7	BEDS. & HERTS. AREA & KENT AND SUSSEX AREAS
W/E October 12-14	WEST MIDLANDS AREA

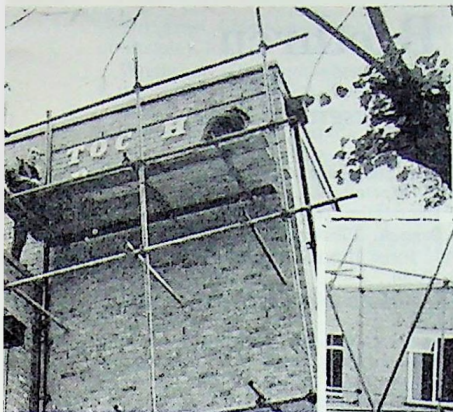
* Indicates Central Parties. W/E = Weekend. W = Complete week.



Prideaux House, the new Toc H Mark III in Hackney, is now rapidly taking shape. An excellent spirit has pervaded the site ever since building operations began. The Architect and Contractor have been enrolled as Toc H Builders. Many friends, including the Borough Council and many other friends, including the local Jewish community. Above: (left) front of the new building, the lettering being fixed in position. Below: (left) Mr. F. Veall, Associate Architect, George Davis, Chairman, Toc H Central Exec. W. J. Tibble, (right) the sand and cement will soon be giving place to g



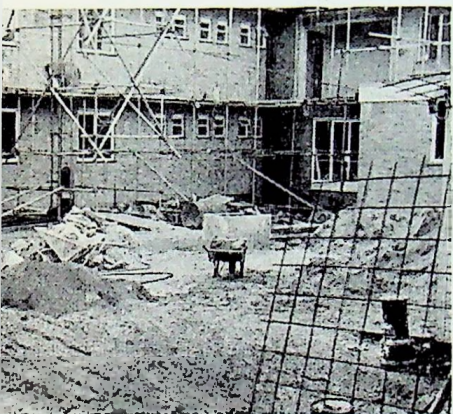
Mark in the Making



ly nearing completion. An
first commenced, and both
ch goodwill has also been
ing Dr. Barnett Joseph on
building, (right) the name
rethitect, Mr. F. W. Holder,
Director of the Contractors,
ass and garden.



Mr. Douglas Yorston, the
site foreman who has seen
the job through from its
commencement.



*Pictures by
'Skegg' Blanchard*

Elder Brethren

'With proud thanksgiving . . .'

BROOKER.—On November 26, GEORGE HENRY BROOKER, aged 60, a member of Plympton Branch. Elected 30.5.'37.

BRYAN.—On November 7, FREDERICK WILLIAM BRYAN, aged 72, a member of South Ashford Branch. Elected 10.2.'59.

BUXTON.—On November 11, JOHN BUXTON, aged 36, a member of Ripley Branch. Elected 3.10.'56.

CURRIE.—On October 21, WILLIAM CURRIE, aged 66, a member of Blackridge Branch. Elected 28.1.'57.

FIRKINS.—On November 3, HUBERT JOHN FIRKINS ('Jock'), a member of Penarth Branch. Elected 26.1.'29.

GILLISON.—On November 11, WILLIAM THOMAS GILLISON, aged 70, a founder member of Elm Park Branch. Elected 30.6.'38.

GLYN-OWEN.—On October 27, THOMAS GLYN-OWEN, aged 54, a member of Rhyl North Branch. Elected 7.3.'33.

GRINYER.—On November 18, ARTHUR LESLIE GRINYER, O.B.E., aged 66, a member of Waterlooville Branch. Elected 4.2.'32.

HEAD.—On November 16, JOHN JAMES HEAD, aged 62, a member of Brookfield Branch. Elected 14.6.'60.

LLEWELLIN.—On November 16, WILLIAM WIGAN LLEWELLIN, O.B.E., J.P., aged 72, formerly of the Borstal Service, and a Southern Area member. Elected 21.3.'32.

LEWIS.—On October 25, TREFOR LEWIS, aged 61, a member of Blaenau Ffestiniog Branch. Elected April 1954.

MAIR.—On November 24, DAVID CRAIG CAMPBELL MAIR, aged 52, a member of Neilston Branch. Elected 28.11.'51.

MARKS.—On November 14, in St. Albans, LESLIE THOMPSON MARKS, aged 54, formerly of Subiaco, Australia.

MASON.—Suddenly on November 2, the Rev. FRANK JAMES ROBERT MASON, aged 71, a member of Hereford Branch. Elected 13.12.'60.

MURRAY-GOURLAY.—On November 8, GEORGE RONALD AURIOL MURRAY-GOURLAY, aged 55, a West Midlands Area member. Elected April 1924.

PENDLEBURY.—On November 18, the Rev. NORMAN PENDLEBURY, M.B.E., aged 73, a member of Sheringham Branch. Elected 30.8.'51.

PROUT.—On October 26, ARTHUR FRANCIS PROUT, aged 68, a member of Looe Branch. Elected 5.5.'43.

RADMALL.—On November 9, LESLIE RADMALL, aged 74, a member of Hitchin Branch. Elected 1.1.'40.

SKEE.—On November 7, WILLIAM ARMSTRONG SKEE, aged 72, a West Yorkshire Area member. Elected 5.1.'49.

SPERRY.—On November 3, JOHN THOMAS SPERRY, aged 74, an East Midlands Area member. Elected 11.12.'53.

WHARTON.—On November 11, JOHN WHARTON, aged 57, a member of Burnley Branch. Elected 9.5.'52.

WHEELER.—On November 23, IVOR GEORGE WHEELER, aged 57, a member of Durdham Down Branch. Elected 12.8.'58.

WILKINS.—On November 24, GEORGE E. WILKINS, aged 67, a member of Reading and Caversham Branch. Elected 22.2.'30.

WINCHESTER.—On November 18, CHARLES WINCHESTER, aged 71, a member of Waterlooville Branch. Elected 2.3.'26.

In Memoriam

WILLIAM WIGAN LLEWELLIN

With the death of BILL LLEWELLIN the call has come to another of the devoted band that ALEC PATERSON gathered round him to develop the Borstal system after the first world war. Like several others, Bill served an apprenticeship in Bermondsey, helping in the clubs, and then entered the Borstal service. In 1930 he was the leader of the imaginative march of forty-three boys and some picked officers from Feltham to the site of what was to become the first open Borstal at Lowdham Grange, Nottinghamshire. Every night on the journey a Toc H Branch arranged accommodation and food for the party and saw them on their way. This may well have been Bill's first introduction to Toc H. He joined in 1932 and encouraged and made full use of Toc H helpers both at Lowdham and later at Hewell Grange. The march to Lowdham confounded the pessimists who had expected the lads to scatter over the countryside. Actually the party arrived intact, a measure of their trust and pride in Bill and their determination not to let him down. They lived in tents until the first huts were built, as later the permanent buildings, by their own hands. The governor lived in his tent until all the boys were properly housed and when he finally abandoned it, it was ceremoniously burned. He cared a lot about the future of his boys and was much interested in "Blighty", the remarkable hostel run by 'Pop' YATES. What Bill gave to Borstal during his long years of service, and after his retirement as chairman of the Verne Board of Visitors, is known only to the very many ex-Borstal boys who are living decent happy lives today because of him. For Bill never talked about himself. I really think it never occurred to him that the love and devotion he gave was anything at all remarkable. He came of a family to whom public service was the obvious and natural thing. I well remember arriving at his home at Upton one Sunday morning. Nobody was at home. His younger Brother J, afterwards the first Governor-General of the

Rhodesian Federation, was attending a military ceremony at Bovington, his sister Mary, as Mayor of Poole, was at a civic service, and Bill later appeared from the village church where he had read the service for the Vicar who was ill. That was typical. In all his doings, in the delightful courtesy of his manners, shown as naturally to the Borstal boy as to the Lord Lieutenant, in his simple faith and his absolute devotion to duty Bill did indeed spread the Gospel without preaching it. One is left wondering whether in his modesty he ever knew how much he was loved.

H.A.S.

Bill and I worked very closely together in the Borstal Service for nearly thirty years, but if because of that I say that I knew him well, I am not sure that I am making a tenable claim. For in a way nobody knew Bill well, not even his closest colleagues. Hubert has said that he never talked about himself, and that is true, but personal reticence is not necessarily a bar to the knowledge of a man. Rather in Bill's case it was his reserve, his old-world courtesy, his insistence on living on borstal rations—a gesture of austerity which some of his staff, with less accommodating digestions, found it hard to compete with—and his piety, for he was pious but never ‘pi’—these I think were some of the things which kept familiarity at arm's length.

When you were with Bill you were at pains not to cheapen yourself; and when you left him you came away with the feeling that you wanted to go off and do your job a bit better, to try to rise to something like his “absolute devotion to duty”. And, as a matter of fact, that is exactly what happened to a great many men and some women I could name (Bill was even more reserved with the ladies—and more courteous!—than he was with men). They worked with him for a season, and there they are to this day, moulding their lives and interpreting their jobs in the light of his example. “One loving heart sets another on fire.”

With his boys the story was the same, deep respect but never cheap familiarity; indeed some of them scarcely reached the point of being at ease with him. But his impact on them! His knowledge of them, mastered as he studied their files and recorded their progress late into the night; the encouragement he gave them and the hope, believing in them still even when they let him down; and his little three-minute talks at evening prayers before turn-in, masterly in their inspired simplicity. . . . Thanks to him, and they know it, scores of them have been enabled to redeem themselves from a wasted life of crime.

R.L.B.

YES!



OPEN

HUSTINGS

-readers' letters

NO!



The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H and asks that they be written briefly and to the point. Effort is made to include a representative selection, and they are printed as individual view-points, not necessarily those of the Movement as a whole.

Toc H on TV

ON SUNDAY, November 26, many thousand viewers of ITV were entertained by a film of the new Toc H Training Centre, intended, presumably, to be a focal point from which Toc H might be presented to the public as a going concern.

As a film show it was very pretty, giving some excellent views of the countryside and a few pleasant pictures of the house itself. There were also shots showing the special training given to the residents during their stay as would enable them to become landscape gardeners and roadmenders, together with a special course in washing-up.

Apart, however, from the view given of a study-circle or debating society about to try and cope with the whole of the Four Points of the Compass at once, under a Chairman who seemed to be more conscious of the TV camera than of his

subject, there was very little that emerged which stood out definitely as Toc H, except to those viewers who were also members of the Family.

During the interview which followed, the interviewer seemed to be on more certain ground than the Headquarters' representative who, while he gave the impression that he knew something about Toc H, appeared to suffer either from a defective memory or a limited imagination. He said, in answer to the question about our activities, that Toc H jobs were innumerable but he appeared to be somewhat limited when asked to give some examples and none of these was calculated to fire the imagination of the listener.

He could have gone back to the dire years of Unemployment when Toc H had a mandate to do something about it and recall some of the ways in which Toc H had coped with

the problem. It is true it would mean delving into the times of thirty years ago but the jobs then achieved still have their value and at least, in those days, Toc H did not need the special advertising that it needs now.

It seemed as though Alan was relying on past experience as a Branch member, coupled with the special knowledge gained on the Staff and that he had made no point of rehearsing the interview and preparing ready answers to the kind of question that he might reasonably expect would be put to him. Far more convincing was the young Marksman who gave the impression that Toc H is his life.

As a means of capturing general interest it would be a good idea to produce a film showing a Toc H unit doing its job rather than to attempt to portray what might be achieved in a family forcing-house, which is of great interest to the members but not much to those outside.

Members of this Branch who had the means of seeing the Dor Knap film invited others to join them and in one group, at the end of the showing, this was heard. "And Toc H Women's Organisation is nowhere".

DONALD STUART.

Exmouth.

Hon. Associates?

WHAT ERNEST MORRIS is driving at in his letter to the December JOURNAL is the proper use of the term, 'Toc H Builder'. The work of the Branch friends set out in his letter is best recognised by calling them Toc H Builders, for that is exactly what they

are doing—helping to build Toc H. Some Builders, we know, can only give financial support, but there are many working alongside Members in their Branch jobs giving local service as well. Let us offer all these friends a place in the Family by inviting their acceptance of the title 'Toc H Builder' with an annual Card of recognition and a Badge to wear. Few of them would object to giving a regular subscription in addition to their practical help; for any who might object or could not afford it themselves, let the Branch, in gratitude, pay the subscription for them.

One further comment. A Member is a Member and a Builder is a Builder and often the twain shall meet for fellowship or on the job, but the hyphenated use of the two words together is a misnomer to be discouraged on every occasion. For the best reason for this see *The Toc H Signpost*.

KEN ROGERS,

Toc H Bursar.

Journal into Braille

FOR SOME TIME NOW, I have been transcribing the Toc H JOURNAL into Braille for the benefit of a Toc H member who then circulates it among his blind friends. This 'circle' has grown enormously and with the approval of Miss Ogilvy, of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, I would now be prepared to run a Braille Toc H Journal Club for *blind members only* in Great Britain. Its members would be divided into a number of 'circles', each in turn receiving a monthly Braille copy and reposting it, on a rota basis, to the next reader.

The names and addresses of any *blind members* who would like to be included in one of the 'circles' should be sent direct to the undersigned.

(Hon.) NORAH HEWITT.

*Ewell House,
Lymington, Hants.*

Over My Dead Body

I WAS GLAD to see noted in the JOURNAL for November the passing of the Human Tissues Act 1961. Up till September 27 when it came into force, only eyes might be removed from a body after death to be used for the benefit of the living. I am delighted to know that more of me may now be of use!

For it had been brought to my notice that Medical Schools are often in difficulty from lack of sufficient bodies for research and the training of students, so I wrote to the nearest Medical

School to enquire how one might make a bequest of one's body, at the same time bequeathing eyes and any other tissues which might help to cure the living.

Now there reposes on top of the private papers in my desk a large envelope marked "Urgent at date of death" containing (a) a note signed by next of kin to say they agree to the bequest; (b) a note to the doctor willing eyes and any other tissue to be used for the benefit of patients; (c) a form to be filled in by the doctor and sent to the Medical School; (d) another form to notify the Inspector of Anatomy that the body is being removed to the Medical School.

Finally, a simple funeral is arranged for by the School authority, who pay its expenses.

F.M.B.

(Name and address supplied.)

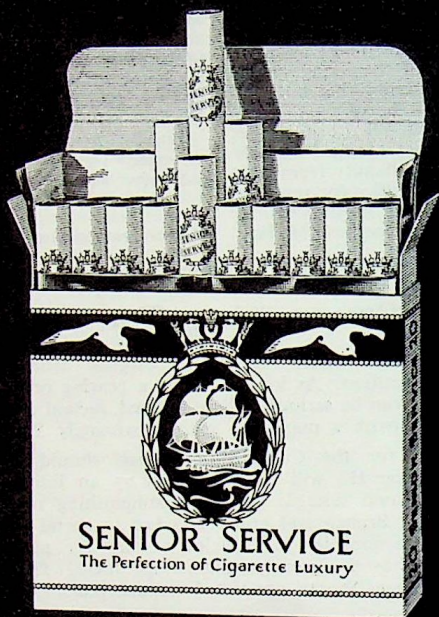
'Concerning Toc H'

All readers are invited to submit original articles for this JOURNAL competition. As long as it has a bearing on Toc H, the subject matter can be serious or light-hearted, factual or imaginary, short or long (with a maximum of approximately 500 words).

All entries for the Competition, which should be marked 'Concerning Toc H', will be considered by an Editorial Panel, and those deemed suitable given a distinguishing mark ★ and printed. Every Branch and group is asked to spend a little time each month to consider the articles as they are published and decide which has the greatest interest for them. Their decision to be noted by a 'Scorer' appointed for the year.

At the conclusion of the Competition, the 'Scorer' will ask the other members to compare the eleven articles they have chosen and to decide by vote which they consider the most outstanding. On the basis of Branch and group votes received, the writer of the highest-placed entry will be entitled to nominate any Branch or group he chooses to receive an award of £5 5s. 0d. for the unit funds.

THE
OUTSTANDING
CIGARETTE
OF THE DAY



WELL MADE • WELL PACKED

Going Places, 1962

PARTIES TO POPERINGE, BELGIUM AND HOLLAND

THIS YEAR, a variety of visits are being arranged and the dates are given below. Parties arranged by Areas are, of course, also open to all-comers. Enquiries or applications should go direct to the leaders whose names and addresses are also given. Individual bookings for the Old House, and all general enquiries, should continue to be made with the OLD HOUSE SECRETARY, Toc H Headquarters, 15 Trinity Square, E.C.3.

APRIL 19-24 (Easter). NOTTS. AND DERBY AREA PARTY, led by EDWIN NUTTALL, 373 Carlton Road, Worksop, Notts.

APRIL 21-28. ST. ALBANS PARTY (4 days in Bruges). led by Miss SHIRLEY JONES, 38 Fishpool Street, St. Albans, Herts.

MAY 4-7. MIXED WEEK-END PARTY, led by The Rev. STEPHEN FOWLER, Huggen's College, Northfleet, Kent.

MAY 23-25. LONDON SCOTTISH REGT. O.C.A.

MAY 29-31. BAOR STAFF CONFERENCE.

MAY 31-JUNE 4. OVERSEAS ASSEMBLY, led by GEOFF MARTIN, Toc H Headquarters, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

JUNE 9-12 (Whitsun). HUDDERSFIELD & HALIFAX DIST. PARTY, led by JOHN S. PERKINS, 520 Wakefield Road, Dalton, Huddersfield.

JUNE 18-JULY 3. SCOTTISH PARTY, led by Miss FRANCES M. BEETON, 25 Montpelier, Edinburgh, 10.

JULY 28-AUGUST 11. MIXED PARTY, week's visit to Holland, followed by second week in Belgium; five days in Bruges, inc. reserved seats *Sanguis Christi*, and two days at the Old House. Details from F. G. CHESWORTH, Editorial Office, Toc H Headquarters, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

AUGUST 11-18. WINANT VOLUNTEERS.

AUGUST 18-25. NORTH LONDON PARTY (Programme includes final performance of *Sanguis Christi* in Bruges). led by S. J. NEILLY, 11 Brookside South, East Barnet, Herts.

AUGUST 25-SEPTEMBER 1. YOUNG MEMBERS PARTY, led by Miss E. PERRIN, Toc H Women's Association, Crutched Friars House, Crutched Friars, London, E.C.3.

SEPTEMBER 1-8. BEDS. & HERTS. AREA, led by R. C. FABLES. The Rectory, Marston Moreteyne, Bedford.

N.B. As some of these parties are likely to be in great demand, please apply without delay.

Sanguis Christi

THE PLAY OF THE HOLY BLOOD

OUTDOOR PLAYS, pageants and processions play a prominent part in the lives of the Belgian people. When setting out to portray past events from the tumultuous and colourful history of their land, they do so with gusto and complete naturalness. Clerk and butcher, accountant and housewife step backwards through the centuries, readily becoming courtiers and crusaders, scholars and craftsmen with effortless ease.

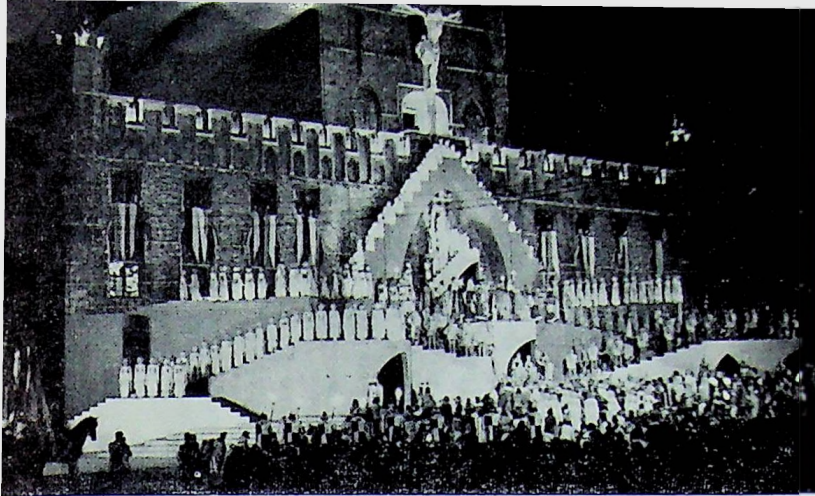
Sticklers for authenticity in both cut and colour of costume—they already possess the faces that fit—their natural groupings, either on or off stage, bring to the twentieth century the very stuff of the paintings of Breughel and the other medieval artists.

Every five years, two thousand of the townspeople of Bruges enact in the open air *Sanguis Christi*, the play of the Holy Blood. For ten summer evenings their great Market Square becomes an auditorium, with the towering Belfry providing a noble backcloth to an immense stage.



"... crusaders, with effortless ease."

The play falls into three parts, the first recalling scenes of the Passion and Crucifixion. The second, still in Jerusalem, but now in the twelfth century, where for his valour in the Crusades, Thiery, Count of Flanders, receives the relic of the Holy Blood.



"... a noble backcloth to an immense stage."

The third part of the play portrays the triumphant return to Bruges from the Holy Land of the Count and his followers, and ends on a majestic climax with a thousand players on the stage, bands and bells joining in the triumphant scene as the great black-and-gold banner of the Lion of Flanders unfurls to drape the Belfry.

This is indeed a spectacle to be seen and shared, and anyone fortunate enough to be in Belgium between July 30 and August 19 would do well to make a special effort to be present at one of the play's ten performances.

* * *

Also in Bruges this summer is being staged an exhibition of the Golden Fleece. This famous Order of Chivalry, founded in Bruges itself by Philip the Good, in 1430, apart from its religious and political character, was also noteworthy for its outstanding patronage of art. Nowadays the treasures of the Golden Fleece are scattered throughout Europe and the exhibition has been arranged to display on loan during the summer this unique collection of paintings and portraits, jewels, copes and archives.

FROM ALL PARTS

-area news



NORTH WESTERN

A recent JOURNAL article stressed the opportunities for service with patients in Mental Hospitals. PRESTON and UPTON-WITH-GREASBY have, for some time, been proving the truth of this and Staffs and patients testify to the curative value of their service. They would commend this job to the consideration of any Branches suitably placed for giving it.

Alec Churcher spent three busy days in the Area meeting Branch and District Officers. The theme of each gathering was Branch Life and the method of general participation instead of a set talk was both lively and useful.

We are exploring the possibilities of a new start in CHESTER early in 1962. Names of anyone likely to be interested would be welcomed by R. Newmarch, 38 Eaton Road, Chester.

JACK SHAW.

SOUTH WALES

The charitable undertakings of Toc H are widespread and varied, but the latest ambitious project of the TREFOREST Branch is likely to become a talking point in Pontypridd during the coming months.

It is the intention of the members to raise sufficient money to entertain forty local under-privileged children to a seaside holiday next year.

The holiday will be of a week's duration. Twenty girls will be accommodated one week, and twenty boys the following week.

This was the decision reached after one of the members had addressed the weekly meeting of the Branch. He took as his subject a similar scheme for under-privileged children which has been in being for several years under the aegis of the Rhyl and district team of Toc H and the Manchester Toc H Branches.

—Glamorgan County Times.

EASTERN LONDON

TOWER HILL Branch meets at '42' and largely consists of past and present residents. A Blind Club is held there fortnightly and the Branch runs an annual dance, the proceeds of which pay for the Club's Christmas dinner and for their annual outing to the seaside. Every week eight members help with a Cripple Club by collecting the crippled folk in a special coach and taking them home again at the end of the evening.

MAYNE ELSON.



Croydon Times

Couldson members packing food parcels for Christmas distribution to old people.

MARCHES

The Division has again welcomed Iain Fraser, this time standing in for John Callf. Three Guest-nights were well attended by visitors, the atmosphere good, refreshments generous and the entertainment of a high standard. The latter included the Chirk Skiffle Group at Oswestry and the young Wellington Mime Girls at Shrewsbury. The Branches are now following up these successful events.

A welcome surprise for the Divisional Executive was the attendance of Padre JOHN JONES at their meeting. John, a very old friend of ours, saw fit to honour us on the second day after his re-appointment to the staff. Members of Toc H throughout the country will be delighted to hear that John looks very fit, still has time to give to the Family, and trades his own fine brand of humour.

T. ROMANIS.

OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY

Some sixty members from the DESBOROUGH Joint District recently attended a re-dedication service at St. Birinus Church, Booker, the service being conducted by Padre Russell of BOOKER Joint group.

UXBRIDGE Branch have had a very successful drive for new members. Some two thousand leaflets were distributed with the co-operation of local newsagents and over eighty personal letters were despatched. This culminated in a special Guest-night at which was shown the Toc H film *A Lamp Burns*. Subsequent attendances at Branch meetings have more than doubled, due entirely to an influx of men new to Toc H. DERICK PARSONS.

SOUTH WESTERN

SALTASH Branch, Cornwall, has recently begun to exchange tape-recordings with Toc H in Queenstown, South Africa. This is an expression of the fact that though South Africa has severed all its links with Britain, Toc H in this country is still keenly interested in the Movement in the new republic, and also that the Branches over there are very conscious that they belong to the wider family.

The scheme to correspond with an English unit was put forward by a member of the Queenstown Branch after an address to them by Padre Harry Devis, who has since become Area Padre of the Southern Area. When Saltash Branch was asked whether they would like to correspond regularly with Queenstown, they replied by sending an introductory letter and Queenstown responded with a letter and a twenty-minute tape recording in which the members introduced themselves, and described their town and the jobs which the unit perform in it. Apart from the enjoyment obtained in hearing news, views and problems of a Branch several thousand miles away in Africa, the Saltash members say they get a great deal of fun out of making their tapes. SHERBORNE and MILBORNE PORT Branches have also just linked up with units in South Africa in this way. There are some thirty Branches of Toc H in South Africa, and one mixed unit. It would be a good thing if all of them could be linked with a Branch in Britain.

The Rev A. T. Rich, Vicar of Topsham and a member of Toc H for forty years, was the guest speaker at a family gathering held at HONITON on November 28 after the Unit's Rededication Service. He took as his subject the standards by which a Branch of Toc H might be judged. About 100 people were present at the service, including members from BEAMINSTER, CULLOMPTON, SEATON, and local friends of Toc H.

Gordon Bellingham, the chairman of the Area Executive, was the speaker at the festival held on November 13 to mark the 25th birthday of St. THOMAS Branch. This was preceded by a Rededication Service in the Parish Church at which the preacher was the Rev. Gordon B. Nicholls, a former Vicar of St. Thomas, and Padre of the unit when it was founded. BOB GREY.



Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser

J. Harrison, secretary of Ashtead Branch, and Mrs. M. Weller, W.A. Branch, cutting the cake at the Branch's 25th Birthday Party.

BEDS. & HERTS.

At the Area Executive the first weekend in November, we welcomed Freddy Rogers back to the fold to lead us in our deliberations—in his usual energetic style on District Teams. More of this will no doubt appear in greater length in the Area Newsletter. *The Beacon*.

Our Sunday Training Day here at my new residence, The Rectory, Marston Moreteyne, was a great success and the numbers of members attending from all corners of the Area have certainly given the Guard of the Lamp a vote of confidence in Sunday Training Days. The contributors were Jack Harrison on Finance—Tom Gulliver on the 'Life and Work of Toc H'. Harry Heskins on 'Branch Programmes', and Don Wilde, a 17-year-old, looking at '40 Years of Toc H'; all commendably summed up and kept on the lines by our Area Chairman Freddie Petch.

BATFORD, the younger of the two Branches in Harpenden, report a new venture which the Branch hope to embark on in the New Year. This concerns the welfare of Old People who are shortly to move into a block of Aged Persons flats just being completed, these residents will be without relations and friends. This venture will be a joint undertaking which will be shared by the local Anglican and Methodist churches. The general idea being that members make themselves available for doing chores normally done by the 'man of the house'.

RAY FABLES.

LAKELAND

A representative gathering took place at the annual Area training weekend at Langdale when Ray Fabes from the Beds. & Herts. Area led discussions on Jobmastery. We had an autumn visit from Charles Young who told us of his experience at Dor Knap, especially with younger men; this had also been the theme of Alan Hill's visit in the spring when he spoke on life in a Mark. The only people who enjoyed good weather were those fortunate enough to be at the Langdale Camp in late June, when the usual mob of raiders from all parts disported themselves on the hills.

APPLEBY Branch helped to advance the cause of the Albemarle Report by being largely responsible for the opening of a coffee bar in the local youth centre; CARLISLE continue their efforts at the Army Training School, MILNTHORPE at the local prison and MORECAMBE a diversity of efforts in local hospitals and also for boys in their own room. The other Branches continue to show their concern for those in hospital, old people, spastics, the blind, the deaf and dumb and on a much smaller scale for young people.

JOE WILLS.

WEST MIDLANDS

Adventuring in Toc H is probably best experienced in the formation and development of a group of men meeting and tackling the problem of community together in a constructive fellowship.

STOURPORT group in an established small town community, with a fringe New Estate, in their first few months have worked for the physically handicapped, provided two radio sets for old people, repaired the bell-rope in the Parish Church, redecorated their meeting room, discussed a wide variety of subjects at their meetings and received a grant of £20 from the local Carnival Fund to help with their local charitable efforts.

CLAREGATE group, having established themselves in a district ready for new development and already expanding, are quietly proceeding to equip themselves to meet that challenge as it develops.

WYCHALL FARM ESTATE group have tackled the problem of a much needed zebra crossing on a very busy thoroughfare on this new skyscraper estate. A club for young boys was a priority need and has been duly met. A camp was arranged during the summer at Portmadoc where, with the help of the local Toc H members, over twenty of these boys, who otherwise would not have had a summer holiday, had a glorious time by the sea. It may be that in the very near future, because of their impact on this estate, the group may be requested to undertake the control of the Community Centre.

In an older part of Birmingham, Toc H has been revived by a new group at YENTON (Erdington). Here the emphasis would appear to be the need of the old, the lonely, the physically handicapped and the newcomers to a bordering new estate and to the new towering flats in the centre of the district.

BOB PURDY.



Express and Echo, Exeter

The Rev. Gordon Nicholls, a former Padre of St. Thomas Branch, Exeter, cuts the cake at the Branch's 25th Birthday Party.

WEST YORKSHIRE

Whether soccer fans or rugby enthusiasts, many West Yorkshire members were willing to forsake their favourite team on at least one Saturday afternoon in November (or December) when, as part of their District Team, they met members of the Guard of the Lamp. Why? In order that the Guard might follow up the suggestions contained in their letter headed *We Are Resolved*.

Raising the standard of personal membership and the presentation of our Movement to the public by Branches was the theme of these conferences. Two-by-two, Huddersfield District Team met with Heavy Woollen; Sheffield with South Yorkshire at Barnsley, Central Yorks. and Swale at Harrogate and, finally, Leeds and Craven at Shipley.

A wealth of information came out of these meetings, planned on like lines but each turning out so differently. The town Branches' problems are often unknown to the rural Branch and the workings of the latter are often so different from the former. Yet, on all sides there was the desire to see that the Movement, through its members, matched the times in which we live. In all the meetings there was promise to review and revise standards of membership, sponsorship, leadership and stewardship.

There was everywhere the demand for Training. Now that the ground for the raising of our standards has been prepared District Teams have undertaken to sow the seed in our Branches.

FRED BROOK.

SOUTHERN

The so-called 'sleepy' South comes alive in the winter. So many men are roped in to help with the tourist harvest in the summer months that in many places Branches carry on with skeleton crews. VERWOOD for example: visited on a regular meeting night in July—only one member present, who, assisted by an elderly friend, was painting the Toc H hall: visited again in November—ten present and much a-doing. This Branch collects old and dilapidated invalid chairs, restores them to perfect order, and lends them out wherever needed.

HARTLEY WINTNEY, 2,500 inhabitants, is in the A.A. Handbook—but only just. Here, in their village hall, a Romany Fair was held and the Branch raised over £200 for the Family Purse!

HARRY DEVIS.



Loughton members 'snapped' while taking a break from re-decorating the exterior of a block of six almshouses. The 'lady' on the right is the Branch Chairman.

LINCOLNSHIRE

The active association of Toc H with the Blood Transfusion Service since its inauguration is well known. In this Area there are trends to support the present appeal for new donors as the need for additional plasma increases. Folk from MARKET RASEN and neighbouring villages have had to journey some sixteen miles or more in the past to the centre at Lincoln. Now the local Branch is seeking the minimum number of 200 donors in the district in order that a local centre may be set up. At SUTTON-ON-SEA, where many members have been donors for many years, added strength was given to the appeal by one member, who stated that an unfortunate sojourn recently in hospital had not only convinced him of the very practical but very necessary service rendered by donors, it had also shown that he might no longer be able to act as a donor himself in future, so that his appeal was for at least one new donor from the Branch to 'fill the ranks' on his behalf. This is a simple but vital act of service to the community which many Branches act upon, but which many more of us could undertake just twice a year, which is the demand normally made upon donors.

GEORGE LEE.

*Weekly Sentinel*

Sneyd Green's annual Chrysanthemum and Flower Show, opened by the Lord Mayor of Stoke-on-Trent.

MANCHESTER

The two Branches in the Potteries have always been in a 'no-man's-land' except for the short period when one of the Manchester Area staff lived there. But there is no lack of spirit at SNEYD GREEN and STOKE. At Sneyd, on September 23, they held their third Annual Chrysanthemum and Flower Show. Opened by the Lord Mayor and his Lady, the entries were almost double those of last year and local traders provided the prizes. James Cowan, a Branch member, walked off with the National Chrysanthemum Society's Silver Medal for the best exhibit in that class. This annual show has brought people together in Sneyd—an important thing to do in this large urban area of the 'five towns'.

STOKE co-operated with MOLD this summer in sending twenty-four boys for a camping holiday in North Wales. The scheme cost £150, and was worked out along Scouting lines; each group, named after a Welsh prince, cooking its own grub over wood fires. Later, in October, to celebrate their twenty-fourth birthday (opinions may differ about that number), the Branch held a short Rededication Service followed by a carefully balanced programme in the evening. There is a lot of amateur musical talent in North Staffordshire, and the Branch Secretary, Roy Stringer and his wife, well in the 'forefront of it, were able to invite first-class musicians. George Lee told his story of Toc H 'down under' with those good coloured slides of his. The Branch also celebrated its birthday by several members turning out for the annual BELRA collection on the same day.

BOB KNIGHT.

SUSSEX

As the climax to many weeks' hard work, the Toc H and W.A. Branches at HAMPDEN PARK held a proud housewarming recently in their new meeting place. Padre Clifford Pollard said that their new headquarters, which had formerly been used by a plumber and a cobbler, was "four walls to go out from" and that the Movement would grow because of its inward life. A highlight of the evening was a totally unexpected presentation of £6 by the Matron of Huyston Home for old people regularly visited by members, where the O.A.P. residents had made a collection.

ROY BERWICK.

NORTHERN

A letter from Rex Calkin to the Northern Area has released the information of a very important staff change which ends a decade of duty in the North East of England. Charles V. Young, Northern Area Secretary, at 64 years of age has been requested, and has accepted the challenge to take on a new task before his retirement. This month, Charles and his wife, Kate, move South, where he takes charge of the new Mark III at South Hackney in North East London. It is a job for which we are assured there is "no better man" available; at once a tribute to Charles with his fervour, vitality and willing adaptability.

Charles joined Toc H staff in June 1937, and during the War served as first Warden at Toc H Services Club, Carlisle, and later overseas at the Old House at Poperinge. The war over, he was posted to Sheffield and then to the Western Area before his transfer to the Northern Area. Here his sincerity and industry have gained him our respect and love.

The North will remember him for his informative ramblings ("I'll think of something!"), which are full of pictures from life. Charles believes in life and the individual. "People matter" is his constant theme. Best wishes Charles and Kate and may success reward your efforts.

T.S.

DOR KNAP

November saw the last two week-end parties when N. Birmingham came, mostly for the first time, and had a very worthwhile discussion on expansion and extension under Dave Archer. We enjoyed having Alan Hill's lovely young party of Toc H members from the Marks who incidentally celebrated November 5 by missing the village bonfire during supper time.

Since then the Conference Room has been given a new look by Tom Haynes, from Hayling Island, who has spent a week remaking or upholstering some old favourites.

Through the good offices of Brian Dickson, we have received a very generous gift from a friend and have now been able to buy a long-required garden cultivator.

GEORGE ATKINSON.

'Guys and Dolls'

at the Scala Theatre, London, on Tuesday, February 13 at 7.30 p.m. is being given by the Stock Exchange Dramatic & Operatic Society for the new Toc H Mark III fund. Branches wanting to reserve blocks of seats should apply early to Ken Rogers at Headquarters.

This Festival Year

The Festivals of Toc H

have been Highlights in its History since 1922. In recent years and in times to come—

1953	— June	— The Coronation.
1955	— April	— St. George's Day.
1957	— December	— The Birthday.
1962	— June	— This Festival Year.
1965	— The Jubilee	of Toc H.

More than four years since the last Festival

It is time that more than 4,000 men who have become members of Toc H in the meantime had a chance to meet the Family in force. Also the members of Toc H Women's Association whose fortieth anniversary it is this year.

Three years before the next Festival

In 1962 there starts the three-year preparation for the Jubilee in 1965—a progressive programme for the Movement and its Branches.

In London this year

The main period from 3 p.m. on Saturday to 4 p.m. on Sunday on:

JUNE 16 and 17, 1962.

Ourselves

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